1st February 1929]

Labour

Provision of peons for Labour Inspectors working in rural areas.

* 1383 Q.—Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that the Labour Inspectors working in rural areas are not given peons and that therefore they are greatly inconvenienced in the discharge of their duties; and

(b) whether the Government propose to appoint peons to assist such Labour Inspectors as are deserving of such consideration?

A.—(a) & (b) Special Inspectors of the Labour Department are given a peon each. Inspectors of Co-operative Societies working in the department are given peons in special cases and the Government do not consider it necessary to give a peon to every such inspector working in rural areas

Police

Alleged compulsion of villagers to arbitration by Sangam in Melur taluk.

* 1384 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received complaints that the members of the Sangam formed by the inhabitants of about thirty or forty villages of Melur taluk, Madura district, under the leadership of Mr. Ranganatha Pillai, residing at Urilipatti, compel people in those villages not to go to Civil and Criminal Courts, and force them to submit to their arbitration;

(b) whether the Government will investigate into the activities of the abovementioned Sangam, call for the correspondence that ensued between the Taluk authorities and Police authorities and the Collector of Madura regarding the Sangam and lay it on the table of the House; and

(c) whether the Government will consider the advisability of suppressing the Sangam?

A.—(a) The Government have received no such complaints.

(b) The enquiry made shows that the Sangam attempted to make itself an authority for the settlement of petty disputes in villages. It came into conflict with the Forest department in 1927 but for the last six months it has practically ceased its activities. The Government do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by placing the correspondence referred to by the hon Member on the table of the House.

(c) Since the Sangam has ceased to function there is no necessity to take measures to suppress it.

Investigation of a pick-pocketing case by the Sangam, Melur taluk.

* 1385 Q.—Mr. K P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that a meeting of the Sangam formed by the inhabitants of about thirty or forty villages of Melur taluk, Madura district, under the leadership of one Mr. Ranganatha Pillai, residing at Urilipatti, Melur taluk, Madura district, was held in the Nuttam village

of Melur taluk on the 28th February 1928, to investigate a pick-pocketting case, that the village munsif of Urilipatti who was specifically prevented from taking part in the activities of the Sangam by a general circular of the District Collector, Madura, attended it and that the village munsif of Nattam reported the fact to the authorities concerned;

(b) what action was taken by the Police to put an end to the activities of the Sangam; and

(c) if the Government have no information whether they will call for the same and place it on the Council table?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clause (b) of question No. 1384.

(c) Does not arise.

Civil Justice

Alleged punishment on the women fruit-sellers ordered by Mr. K. Padmanabhulu Nayudu, Honorary Magistrate.

* 1386 Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether one Mr. K. Padmanabhulu Nayudu is an honorary magistrate for the City of Madras;

(b) what his qualifications are and which of those qualifications made the Government select him as a fit person to try cases singly;

(c) what his service record is in Kurnool;

(d) whether the following women fruit-sellers of Esplanade were fined Rs. 10 each on Saturday, 24th November 1928, by the said honorary magistrate: Thimmakka, Periya Miniyamma, Chinna Miniyamma, Andalamma, Latchmi Amma, Thayi Amma, Nagaratnam Ayya, Rajamma;

(e) what the offence was for which they were fined;

(f) whether it is a fact that these women were not allowed to stir out of the court-house before the fines were paid;

(g) what the alternative sentence was in each of these cases; and

(h) whether they were not prevented from committing the offence with which they were charged by the policemen on duty?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) He is a retired Huzur Sarishtadar. He is also a graduate. The Chief Presidency Magistrate on whose recommendation the Government usually act in such cases was of opinion that the gentleman was competent to dispose of cases singly.

(c) *to* (h) The Government have no information.

Village Courts Act

Execution of decrees of village panchayat courts.

* 1387 Q.—Mr. D. Narayana Raju: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 54 given on 23rd August 1927 regarding the difficulties at present experienced in the execution of the decrees of village panchayat courts—

(a) whether the reports of the Collectors have been received;

(b) if so, what those reports are; and

(c) what action Government have taken thereon?